



## FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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*For Immediate Release*

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### Huntley Meadows Park Continues Outreach on Wetland Restoration

The public now has several additional opportunities to receive information about plans for a wetland restoration project at Huntley Meadows Park. The project will strive to protect the wetlands from decreased biodiversity, due to habitat succession, beaver movements, droughts and silt from surrounding developments. Through a series of berms, spillways, shallow wetland pools, the placement of downed trees in the wetlands, as well as the expansion of existing meadow area, the site would continue to thrive.

Two park manager walk and talk sessions have been scheduled at the park. One is set for Saturday, February 23, 2008 from 4 to 6 p.m. and the other will take place on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, also from 4 to 6 p.m. These sessions include a walk in the wetlands, a brief presentation and plenty of time for questions, answers and discussions. Participants should meet at the Visitor Center at 3701 Lockheed Blvd.

The plans for this restoration project will also be presented publicly on Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Groveton Elementary School located at 6900 Harrison Lane in Alexandria. Please join us as we present the latest plans and updates for the project. The agenda includes time for comments, group discussion, questions and a "what's next" portion which focuses on the project schedule and volunteer monitoring opportunities.

Huntley Meadows, owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority, is located at Harrison Lane and Lockheed Boulevard in Alexandria and contains 1,425 acres of diverse habitats including wetlands, meadows and mature forest. Its animal residents include fox, deer, beaver, otter and over 200 species of birds and visitors can enjoy a two-thirds mile boardwalk through the wetlands that leads to an observation tower. This site provides an expansive opportunity for environmental education.

For more information please call Park Manager Kevin Munroe at 703-768-2526 or visit us online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley/restorationproject.htm>.

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